

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 73 on page 18 in the specification with the following paragraph:

[0073] Although the reference photodiode effectively eliminates the effects the environmental changes, it has been found that an optic is still required between the sample photodiode and the consumable, because the consumable is often not at thermal equilibrium with environment. This necessitates a larger distance between the sample photodiode and the transparent window. On the other ~~hand~~ hand, the increased distance affects an optical path. Clearly, the closer the source of light to the transparent window and, therefore, to the photodiode, the less distortion of the light beam. In one embodiment of the present invention, shown in Figure 10, this This dichotomy ~~is~~ can be reconciled by introducing a combination of two plano-convex lenses ~~lens~~ 122, 124 between the consumable 12 and the transparent window 41.